Joint Venture Training Course with United States

524. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are giving any access to the United States of America to India Military bases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any joint venture training course with US at the Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School (CIJWS) in Mizoram; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) There is no joint venture training course with the US in any Military training establishment in India. Indian Military training establishments, including the Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School (CIJWS) , regularly accept officers on training from friendly foreign countries. Offcers from the US have attended the training courses at CIJWS in 1996, 1997 and 2000.

Shortage of Pilots in Air Force

525. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news-item captioned "Shortage of pilots Cripples Air Force" which appeared in the Hindustan Times, New Delhi dated the 16th June, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Air Force (IAF) is facing shortage of pilots at a time when it is aspiring to prepare itself to become an arrow space power of the World; and

(c) the details of shortage of pilots in the IAF and what steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government are aware of the said news item. While there is an overall shortage